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February 10, 1993

Dalton G. Paxman, Ph.D.
Project Director
Biological Applications Program
Office of Technology Assessment
U.S. Congress
Washington, D.C. 20150-8025

Dear Dr. Paxman,

It has just come to my attention that Dr. Thomas Borelli, Director-Corporate Scientific Affairs was too busy to send you comments on the draft report: **Research In Health Risk Assessment.** Therefore, I apologize for the tardiness of my comments; I hope there is still time for you to review my comments for inclusion in the report.

We are in agreement with the Draft's major suggestions for improving the risk assessment process at the Federal level. Standardized assessment procedures in the form of guidelines are crucial for a more accurate and critical interpretation of available science. Once formulated, strict compliance with standardized procedures should be mandated. In addition, the use of assumptions in risk assessment in the absence of definitive science, as the Draft points out, is widespread and should be replaced by Federal funding of actual scientific research projects.

We also agree with the Draft's contention that the risk assessment process is based to a large extent upon uncertainty, and that uncertainties in hazard evaluation, exposure assessment, dose-response evaluation and risk characterization should be clearly recognized and discussed in a risk assessment.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and to provide comments on the OTA Draft on Health Risk Assessment. I would appreciate you sending me a copy of the final report and would like for you to keep me on your mailing list for further material on risk assessment methodology and policy.

Sincerely,

Mayada Logue

Mayada Logue
Senior Scientific and
Regulatory Affairs Analyst

RECEIVED

FEB 11 1993

TOM BORELLI